

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ANKARA 05446 271433Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 DLOS-09 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /072 W
-----094934 271443Z /53

O P 271355Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2765
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
AMCONSUL ADANA
USICA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANKARA 5446

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, MASS, MARR, TU, CY
SUBJECT: TURKISH PRESS REACTION TO SENATE ACTION
ON ARMS EMBARGO

REF: ANKARA 5415

1. TURKISH PRESS JULY 27 CONTINUED TO BE DOMINATED BY
REPORTS AND COMMENTARY ON THE SENATE ACTION TO REPEAL
THE EMBARGO. REPORTING WAS ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY BASED ON THE
STATEMENT OF PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT (REFTEL) AS WELL AS
THOSE OF OPPOSITION PARTY LEADERS. HEADLINES REPRESENTED
THRUST OF REPORTING: LEFTIST GUMHURIYET, "ECEVIT:
SENATE DECISION MAY CAUSE PROBLEMS"; MODERATE MILLIYET,
"ECEVIT: DECISION MAY CAUSE PROBLEMS BUT MAY HAVE POSITIVE
AND REALISTIC ASPECTS"; MASS APPEAL HURRIYET, "AMERICA IS
HAPPY BUT WHAT ABOUT US?"; CONSERVATIVE TERCUMAN,
"DECISION HAS POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE ASPECTS".

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ANKARA 05446 271433Z

2. JUSTICE PARTY LEADER DEMIREL WAS REPORTED TO HAVE TOLD
AN IMPROMPTU NEWS CONFERENCE THAT HE REGRETTED THE EMBARGO
DECISION AND THAT THERE IS "NO CHANGE IN THE ATTITUDE
OF THE U.S. SENATE". THE AMENDMENT, HE SAID, IS "EVASIVE"
AND "THIS DECISION HAS HURT TURKEY". ASKED IF THE AMENDMENT
ALSO IMPOSES CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS ON GREECE PREVIOUSLY

RESERVED ONLY FOR TURKEY, DEMIREL REPLIED THAT HE HAD NOT YET SEEN THE TEXT OF THE SENATE BILL.

3. THE PRESS ALSO PUBLISHED THE STATEMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY WHICH CLAIMED THAT THE EMBARGO WAS IMPOSED, "IN VIOLATION OF AGREEMENTS AND FRIENDLY TIES, IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN TURKEY'S FOREIGN POLICY IN A DIRECTION DESIRED BY THE GREEKS". THE STATEMENT GOES ON TO ASSERT THAT, "CONDITIONAL LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO WILL ENTAIL TAKING GRAVE STEPS ON CYPRUS" AND THAT THE NSP HAS BEEN, "WORRYING FROM THE VERY BEGINNING THAT ECEVIT WOULD GIVE IMPORTANT CONCESSIONS IN CYPRUS".

4. NATIONAL ACTION PARTY VICE PRESIDENT AND SPOKESMAN SADI SOMUNCUOGLU'S STATEMENT WAS SIMILARLY FEATURED IN THE PRESS. SOMUNCUOGLU WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE SENATE ACTION, ALTHOUGH CONDITIONAL, "INDICATES THAT THE UNITED STATES IS INCLINED TO CHANGE ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD TURKEY AT LEAST PARTIALLY". HE GOES ON TO SAY, HOWEVER, THAT THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO IS APPARENTLY LINKED TO CONCESSIONS TO BE GIVEN BY TURKEY TO GREECE AND GREECE'S CONSIDERATION OF WHETHER THESE CONCESSIONS ARE SATISFACTORY.

5. THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE EDITORIAL OPINION WAS ABDI IPEKCI'S LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 ANKARA 05446 271433Z

SECOND ARTICLE ON THE SENATE ACTION. IN CONTRAST TO HIS PREVIOUS EFFORT, IPEKCI FOLLOWED THE LEAD OF PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT WRITING THAT THERE WAS BOTH GOOD AND BAD IN THE WORDING OF THE BYRD AMENDMENT. ON THE NEGATIVE SIDE, IPEKCI NOTES THAT THE EMBARGO IS NOT LIFTED "UNCONDITIONALLY", "TIES MATTERS TO CYPRUS" AND "CONTINUES TO MAINTAIN A CONNECTION THAT TURKEY HAS REJECTED FROM THE START". ON THE POSITIVE SIDE HE NUMERICALLY LISTED:

- 1) THE SENATE BILL DOES NOT HAVE WITHIN IT ANY CONDITION TO BE DIRECTLY APPLIED AGAINST TURKEY"
- 2) TURKEY IS NOT "THE SOLE ADDRESSEE" OF U.S. EFFORTS TO SOLVE THE CYPRUS PROBLEM.
- 3) SUPPORT IS GIVEN TO THE DENKTAS-MAKARIOS AGREEMENT AT A TIME WHEN KYPRIANOU IS "DISREGARDING" THAT AGREEMENT.

6. COMMENT: IPEKCI'S ARTICLE REFLECTS BOTH A CONVERSATION HE HAD WITH EMBASSY PUBLIC AFFAIRS ICA COUNSELOR AND ECEVIT'S STATEMENT. IN ADDITION, WE HAVE LEARNED THAT IPEKCI, WHO OFTEN REPORTS THE MFA VIEWPOINT, CALLED MFA SECRETARY GENERAL ELEKDAG TO RECEIVE HIS ASSURANCES THAT THE POSITIVE ELEMENTS HE ENUMERATES IN HIS ARTICLE (PARA 5 ABOVE) WERE THE

POSITION OF THE MINISTRY. ELEKDAG GRIMACED SLIGHTLY
AND SAID THAT THEY WERE.
DILLON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ARMS EMBARGO
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ANKARA05446
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780308-0402
Format: TEL
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780711/aaaaajks.tel
Line Count: 119
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 557e566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 ANKARA 5415
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1860825
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH PRESS REACTION TO SENATE ACTION ON ARMS EMBARGO
TAGS: PEPR, MASS, MARR, TU, CY
To: STATE ATHENS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/557e566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014